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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY.

NOVEMBER 8TH, 1847.

REV. HUMPHREY LLOYD, D. D., PRESIDENT,
in the Chair.

THE following Address, which was presented to the Lord Lieutenant on the 7th July last, together with His Excellency's Answer, was ordered to be entered on the Minutes :

“ To His Excellency the Right Honourable William Frederick Earl of Clarendon, Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland, &c.

“ MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

“ We, the President and Members of the Royal Irish Academy, humbly beg your Excellency's permission to offer you our respectful congratulations on your arrival in this country, in the high character of Representative of our most gracious Sovereign.

“ The Royal Irish Academy was incorporated at the close of the last century, for the Promotion of the study of Science, Polite Literature, and Antiquities, in Ireland.

“ By the Charter of our Royal Founder, King George the Third, the office of Visitor of the Academy belongs to your Excellency, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

“ It becomes our duty, therefore, to solicit your Excel-

lency's attention to the objects of the Academy, and to the manner in which we have endeavoured to carry those objects into effect. When your Excellency has leisure to inquire more minutely into our proceedings, we indulge a hope that you will recognise in the Royal Irish Academy a most important instrument of good for Ireland. The Academy, during a period of more than sixty years, has been the means of bringing into notice much of the talent of this country, which would otherwise, perhaps, have perished in obscurity ; and the papers that have appeared in our Transactions have earned for us a reputation, not altogether insignificant, among the learned Societies and Academies of Europe.

“ To the inheritor of the illustrious title of Clarendon, it is unnecessary to enlarge upon the advantages of an Institution which has for its objects the advancement of Literature and Learning. An indirect, but not unimportant benefit, resulting from such an Institution, is its tendency to diminish party strife and prejudice. The Academy has always been composed of men who differed from each other widely on many subjects ; but their differences, hallowed by the calm pursuits of Science, have never interfered with that mutual forbearance and good will which is so essential to the right cultivation of Literature, and so eminently desirable in a country like this.

“ That such benevolent and kindly feelings, with learning and all useful knowledge, may be effectually promoted in every part of Ireland under your Excellency's government, is our earnest hope and prayer.”

ANSWER.

“ MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY,

“ I beg you will accept my sincere acknowledgments for the kind and flattering terms in which you have conveyed to me your congratulations upon my arrival in this country.

“ I anticipate the highest gratification from the performance of my duty as Visitor of the Royal Irish Academy, because I feel convinced that personal observation and inquiry can only confirm the opinion that I entertain, that you have well understood, and have effectually carried out, the noble objects of your Institution, by promoting the study of Science, by fostering the talent of Ireland, and by publishing those results of your labours, which have earned for the Academy, both at home and abroad, the reputation it so justly enjoys.

“ No higher tribute can be paid to Science and Literature, —no proof more convincing of their general influence can be found,—than the fact that, during a period of sixty years, throughout which dissensions have unhappily, and almost without interruption, prevailed in this country, the Royal Academy has always kept aloof from the strife of parties, and has presented a neutral ground, where men of opinions the most opposite could meet for a common purpose, where the voice of passion was not heard, and where each was intent upon the good of all.

“ The Members of the Academy must feel an honest pride in having thus afforded an example of that mutual forbearance and good will which are of vital importance to the progress and prosperity of Ireland. The necessity and the advantages of such benevolent feelings are now, I rejoice to think, generally recognised, and I shall consider myself most fortunate, if my unceasing efforts to promote them, together with the diffusion of knowledge, are attended with the success I desire ; for I am well assured that nothing, at the present moment, would be more useful to Ireland, or more faithfully fulfil the gracious intentions of our Sovereign.”

IT WAS RESOLVED,—That we have received with the deepest sorrow the intelligence of the calamitous event which has deprived the Academy, the University, and the scientific world, of so bright an ornament as Professor Mac Cullagh.

That we beg leave to offer our sincere condolence and sympathy to his family, under an affliction so deplorable and irreparable.

That we shall ever cherish, with sentiments of the most poignant regret, the memory of one, to whose zeal and munificence this Academy especially is so deeply indebted.

That, as an expression (however feeble and inadequate) of our sorrow for his memory, the Academy do now adjourn, without proceeding to transact any of the ordinary business of this Meeting.

NOVEMBER 30TH, 1847.—(STATED MEETING.)

REV. HUMPHREY LLOYD, D. D., PRESIDENT,
in the Chair.

THE Rev. Samuel Haughton was elected a Member of the Committee of Science; and Eaton Hodgkinson, Esq., F. R. S., was elected a Member of the Academy.

The Council having recommended the Academy to sanction an exchange of antiquities proposed by Mr. Staunton, of Longbridge, near Warwick,

IT WAS RESOLVED,—That the brass seal in the Museum of the Academy, with the legend, “*Sigillum peculiaris Jurisdictionis de F Fysshers Itchyngton*,” be given to Mr. Staunton in exchange for a seal made of slate, having the legend “*Sigillum dñi ioh̄is ep̄i limirensis*.”

READ,—The following translation of a letter from the Royal Commission for the Preservation of Antiquities, dated Copenhagen, June 26, 1847:

“Mr. J. J. A. Worsaae, well known by his writings and antiquarian researches, both in his own country and in the